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Selected Speeches and News Releases

May 17 - May 24, 1990

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR UPLAND COTTON

Washington, May 17—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-4.9) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, May 18, through midnight Thursday, May 24.

Since the adjusted world price (AWP) is above the 1988 and 1989 crop base quality loan rates of 51.80 and 50.00 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rates for the 1988 and 1989 crops of upland cotton during this period are equal to the respective loan rates for the specific quality and location.

The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates. Because the AWP in effect is above the established loan rate, loan deficiency payments are not available for 1989-crop upland cotton sold during this period.

This period represents week 5 of the six-week transition period from using current shipment prices to using forward shipment prices in the Northern Europe price component of the AWP calculation. For week 5 and week 6, the Northern Europe price = (Northern Europe current price) + (Northern Europe forward price \times 2)/3. This procedure was adopted to avoid a dramatic change in the AWP that could occur at the end of the marketing year with no transition period, due to differences between new and old crop price quotes.

Because both current shipment prices and forward shipment prices for “coarse count” cotton C.I.F. northern Europe are not yet available, the Northern Europe coarse count price this week will equal the 5-day average of the 3 lowest-priced current shipment prices for “coarse count” cotton C.I.F. northern Europe for the preceding Friday through Thursday. The six week transition period for the Northern Europe coarse count price component of the AWP will begin whenever both the

Northern Europe coarse count current price and the Northern Europe coarse count forward price become available.

In calculating the adjustment to average U.S. spot market location, Thursday's current shipment prices for U.S. Memphis territory and the California/Arizona territory as quoted for Middling 1-3/32 inch cotton C.I.F. northern Europe were used.

Based on data for the week ending May 17, the AWP for upland cotton and the coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price	
Northern Europe Price	80.74
Adjustments:	
Average U.S. spot market location	13.26
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton	2.20
Average U.S. location	0.39
Sum of Adjustments	<u>-15.85</u>
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE	64.89 cents/lb.
Coarse Count Adjustment	
Northern Europe Price	80.74
Northern Europe Coarse Count Price	<u>-79.77</u>
	0.97
Adjustment to SLM 1-inch cotton	<u>-4.75</u>
	-3.78
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT	0 cents/lb.

The next AWP and coarse count adjustment announcement will be made on Thursday, May 24.

Charles Cunningham (202) 447-7954

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PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR MEXICO

WASHINGTON, May 17—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 110,000 metric tons of corn for delivery to Mexico during the 1989-90 marketing year.

The marketing year for corn began Sept. 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3 p.m. eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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USDA ESTABLISHES OFFICE TO COORDINATE ACTIVITIES IN EASTERN EUROPE

WASHINGTON, May 18—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has established an office to coordinate information and USDA activities in Eastern Europe, Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder said today.

The new office, part of USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, will provide a contact point for agricultural and agribusiness organizations and individuals with an interest in Eastern Europe, Crowder said. The countries covered by the office are Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

Guy Haviland has been named to head the office. Haviland's previous USDA posts include agricultural counselor to Poland, Egypt and South Africa; agricultural attache to Thailand, Ecuador and India; and supervisory agricultural marketing specialist in the FAS Public Law 480 program operations division.

For more information, contact Guy Haviland, coordinator, Eastern Europe and Soviet Secretariat, FAS, Room 3058-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-1000, or telephone (202) 382-0368.

Sally Klusaritz (202) 447-3448

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USDA ANNOUNCES 1990-CROP CORN AND SORGHUM LOAN AND PURCHASE RATES

WASHINGTON, May 18—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation today announced county price support loan and purchase rates for the 1990 crops of corn and sorghum.

The 1990 crop county price support rates were determined in accordance with the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, and reflect changes in the national average price support rates. Some county rates were adjusted to reflect location and transportation costs and other factors.

Copies of the corn and sorghum county rate schedules are available from Celestine Ware, Cotton, Grain and Rice Price Support Division, USDA/ASCS, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013; telephone (202) 382-9880.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-8206.

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ELIGIBLE ELS COTTON PRODUCERS DUE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR 1989 CROP

WASHINGTON, May 18—Eligible producers of extra long staple (ELS) cotton will receive deficiency payments at the rate of 0.4 cents per pound on their 1989 production, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official announced today.

Keith Bjerke, executive vice president of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation, said the 1989 deficiency payment rate is equal to the difference between the established target price of 96.7 cents per pound and the national average price of 96.3 cents per pound received by producers from August 1989 through March 1990.

Participants in the 1989 ELS cotton Acreage Reduction Program are eligible to receive deficiency payments in an amount equal to their farm program payment yield multiplied by their eligible ELS cotton planted acreage.

USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will begin making payments in the last part of May. The agency estimates that the total amount of payments will be about \$6,000.

The most recent year ELS cotton deficiency payments were required was for the 1986 crop.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-8206

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USDA ANNOUNCES RESULTS OF 1990 PROGRAM SIGNUP

WASHINGTON, May 18—Producers have signed contracts to enroll 163.3 million acres of feed grains, wheat, upland and extra-long staple (ELS) cotton, and rice in the 1990 commodity price support and acreage reduction programs, according to a report issued today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the contracts 24.8 million of these acres will be idled and placed in a conserving use.

The acreage enrolled in 1990 commodity programs represents 75.4 percent of the 216.6 million acres of total crop acreage bases established for these commodities. For the 1989 programs, 77.8 percent of that year's 220.0 million acres of total crop acreage bases was enrolled and 29.9 million acres were contracted to be placed in conserving use.

The following table is a national summary of the enrollment report.

1990 Farm Program Signup

	Effective Base	Enrolled Base	ACR*	0/92 50/92	Percent Enrolled
- - - - - (million acres) - - - - -					
Corn	82.7	62.9	6.1	3.7	76.1%
Sorghum	15.4	11.6	1.0	1.9	75.4%
Barley	11.9	7.8	.7	1.7	65.7%
Oats	7.5	.7	.03	.2	9.9%
Feed Grains	117.5	83.0	7.8	7.5	70.6%
Wheat	80.5	64.1	2.1	4.5	79.7%
Cotton - Upland	14.3	12.4	1.5	.4	86.8%
- ELS	.2	.04	.002	0.0	23.1%
Rice	4.1	3.8	.7	.3	92.2%
Total	216.6	163.3	12.1	12.7	75.4%
*Acreage Conservation Reserve.					

Producers who participate in the annual commodity programs agree to reduce their plantings from the established bases by at least 10 percent for corn, sorghum and barley, 5 percent for wheat, oats and ELS cotton, 12.5 percent for upland cotton and 20 percent for rice.

Producers were offered the option to modify their original 1990 wheat program contracts. Of the 64.1 million wheat acres enrolled, 18.5 million acres were on modified contracts. Producers who enrolled in the modified contract indicated intentions to plant 1.2 million acres more than 95 percent of their bases. For each acre planted in excess of 95 percent of the base, acreage used in determining deficiency payments will be reduced by one acre. Minimum acreage for payment will be 85 percent of the farm's base if the producer plants the maximum acreage of 105 percent of the base.

Participating producers will be eligible for program benefits such as Commodity Credit Corporation price support loans and purchases and deficiency payments. In addition, feed grain, wheat, upland cotton and rice producers were allowed to request 40 percent of their projected 1990 deficiency payments to be paid in advance. Payments were issued in cash.

Signup for the 1990 programs began on Jan. 16, 1990, and ended April 13.

During a special signup period, Jan. 16 through Feb. 16, producers requested authorization to plant 1.9 million acres of soybeans and 10 thousand acres of sunflowers in lieu of their permitted acreage for 1990 feed grains, wheat, cotton and rice. CCC authorized the planting of all acreage requested under the special signup. Planting credit will be given producers for the amount of soybeans and sunflowers they plant on this acreage to protect their program crop acreage base history.

Printed copies of the tables show by commodity and state, the number and percentage of farms and acreage signed up in the program can be obtained from the USDA's Office of Public Affairs, News Division-Room 404-A, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-9120, ask for press release number 646-90.

Bruce Merkle (202) 447-6789

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USDA ANNOUNCES COMPLIANCE FIGURES FOR 1989
ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, May 18—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that producers on farms which had a total of 76 percent of the crop acreage bases established for wheat, feed grains, upland and extra-long staple (ELS) cotton and rice, were in compliance with 1989 production adjustment program requirements.

A total of 30.9 million acres were taken out of production and maintained in conserving uses.

Producers complying with the acreage reduction programs agreed to reduce their plantings 10 percent for wheat, corn, sorghum and barley, 5 percent for oats and ELS cotton, and 25 percent for upland cotton and rice.

The following table is a national summary of the 1989 compliance report.

1989 Farm Program Compliance (million acres) *

	Effective Base	Enrolled Base	ACR*	0/92 50/92	Percent Enrolled
- - - - - (million acres) - - - - -					
Corn	82.7	65.7	6.3	4.5	79.5 %
Sorghum	16.2	11.5	1.1	2.2	70.8 %
Barley	12.3	8.2	.8	1.5	66.6 %
Oats	7.6	1.4	.06	.25	18.4 %
Grains	118.8	86.8	8.2	8.5	72.7 %
Wheat	82.3	64.4	6.1	3.5	78.2 %
Cotton - Upland	14.6	12.9	3.1	.4	88.6 %
- ELS	.1	.003	.0001	0	2.1 %
Rice	4.2	3.9	.9	.2	93.7 %
Total	220.0	168.0	18.3	12.6	76.4 %

*Totals are not true due to rounding.

**Acreage Reduction Program.

Printed copies of the tables show by commodity and state the compliance figures, plus total farms, total acreages and percentages can be obtained from the USDA's Office of Public Affairs, News Division-Room 404-A, Washington, D.C. 20250. Telephone: (202) 447-9120, ask for press release number 640-90.

Robert Feist (202) 447-6789

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USDA ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENTS TO NATIONAL BEEF BOARD

WASHINGTON, May 18—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today announced three appointments to fill vacancies on the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board.

The new appointments are: Frances M.L. Cassidy, an importer from New York, N.Y., who will serve on the board until Nov. 30, 1990, completing the term of Brian Todd, Rye, N.Y.

Lawrence I. Bryant, an importer from McLean, Va., who will serve on the board until Nov. 30, 1991, completing the term of Barrie Saunders, Larchmont, N.Y.

Gerda Virginia Hyde, a cattle producer from Chiloquin, Ore., who will serve on the board until Nov. 30, 1992, completing the term of the late Richard Cowan, Riley, Ore.

Established under the Beef Promotion and Research Act of 1985, the board has implemented a national program designed to improve the beef industry's position in the marketplace. Approved for continuation in a May 1988 referendum, the program is funded by a mandatory \$1-per-head assessment on all cattle marketed in the United States, and by an equivalent amount on imported cattle and beef. Assessments began Oct. 1, 1986.

Jacque Lee (202) 447-8998

#

USDA PUBLISHES NATIVE AMERICAN RECIPE BOOK

WASHINGTON, May 21—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service has just released a new recipe book, Quick & Easy Commodity Recipes for the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

"This book is the result of a cooperative effort between USDA and the Indian Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, with significant contributions from the American Indian population," said FNS Administrator Betty Jo Nelsen.

The recipe book was developed as part of a five-year nutrition education plan to help primarily Native American participants of the FDPIR program make more nutritious use of the USDA commodity foods they receive in their monthly food package.

"Our main goal in developing the recipe book is that by using it, FDPIR participants will be able to better follow the dietary guidelines established in 'Nutrition and Your Health: Dietary Guidelines for Americans' developed by USDA and DHHS," said Joanne M. Proulx, chief of the Nutrition and Dietetics Training Program, IHS.

"Native Americans, and those working with them from all over the country sent us some great recipes using USDA commodity foods," said Nelsen. "From the recipes we received, we picked the ones for this book that taste good, use commodities for at least half the ingredients, use few pots and pans, and are quick and easy to make."

About 70 non-traditional and traditional recipes appear in the recipe book. These were tested and standardized using commodity foods and taste-tested for acceptance by American Indians from several tribes.

Nelsen emphasized that while this is not a diet recipe book, many of the recipes use less sugar, salt and fat than the original recipe. The amount of calories, carbohydrates, protein, fat and sodium for one serving is given at the end of each recipe.

Copies of the recipe book are available on a priority basis to FDPIR Indians. State agencies and Indian tribal organizations are responsible for distributing the recipe book to FDPIR participating households. A limited number of copies are available from: USDA, FNS, Nutrition Science and

Education Branch, 3101 Park Center Drive, Rm. 607, Alexandria, Va. 22302; and DHHS, IHS, Diabetes Program, 2401 12th St., NW, Rm. 211N, Albuquerque, N.M.

Phil Shanholtzer (703) 756-3286

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ZAIRE ELIGIBLE FOR MORE WHEAT UNDER EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, May 21—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced an opportunity for sales of an additional 100,000 metric tons of U.S. wheat to Zaire under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program.

Sales of wheat will be made to buyers in Zaire at competitive world prices. The export sales will be made through normal commercial channels with the assistance of commodities from the inventory of the Commodity Credit Corporation. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in the Zairian market.

This allocation will be valid for a one-year period as provided for in the invitation for offers. Details of the program, including an invitation for offers from exporters, will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Mark Rowse, (202) 382-9240, or Larry McElvain, (202) 447-3224. For a tape-recorded message announcing the issuance of invitations under EEP call the CCC Operations Hotline, (202) 447-2042.

Sally Klusaritz (202) 447-3448

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WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REMAINS LOW FOR THE WEST

WASHINGTON, May 21—The water supply outlook for the Western states continues to be low, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official said today.

“Water conservation will be more important than ever,” said Wilson Scaling, chief of USDA's Soil Conservation Service. “Our final report for the season shows streamflows for the remainder of the runoff season will be below to well below average for most of the Western states.”

Streamflows are forecast to be near normal for central Washington; northern, central and southwestern Montana; northeastern Wyoming; and north central Colorado.

The only areas in the West expected to receive above average streamflows are Alaska and the Cache la Poudre River in Colorado.

Reservoir storage as of April 30 was below average for most of the Western states. Nevada and Arizona reported well-below average storage. New Mexico and Washington reported well-above average storage.

The Western states depend on snowmelt for about 75 percent of their water supply. SCS and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service jointly analyze snow and precipitation data and forecast seasonal runoff.

State-by-state outlooks:

ALASKA—April culminated in the sixth week in a row of near ideal weather for depleting a record snowpack and reducing ominous flood threats of a month ago. Clear weather, producing thawing days and freezing nights, has caused a smooth and even meltoff. As the end of a very long and hard winter draws rapidly to a close, it appears the state may escape without serious flood problems.

CALIFORNIA—The California drought continues to intensify. Streamflow volumes are expected to be 36 percent of average statewide. April precipitation was well below normal—only 50 percent of average. The driest areas were the San Francisco Bay and the Central Coast, where April precipitation was 20 percent of average. This season's precipitation to date is 55 percent of average throughout the state. The central coast is by far the hardest hit drought area. Runoff has been only 20 percent of average during the past three years and has been only 10 percent of average this year.

COLORADO—Water supply forecasts for spring and summer remain below average nearly statewide, even though locally heavy precipitation occurred in southern Colorado during April. These storms helped the soil moisture conditions at lower elevations, but had little impact on the projections for late season runoff. Normal crop production this year will continue to depend on adequate summer rainfall and releases of available reservoir storage. Application of water conservation measures is encouraged.

IDAHO—Heavy rainfall in late April significantly improved soil moisture conditions in agricultural valleys but was too little too late to improve the bleak streamflow outlook for most of central and southern

Idaho. Low snowpack, early snowmelt, and low reservoir storage have combined to set the stage for another very dry year. Only timely spring and summer rains will ease the concerns of many irrigators this year. Water users in some areas of southern Idaho can expect severe water shortages this summer and should keep in touch with their local irrigation districts for more specific information.

MONTANA—Even though considerable melt at low-and mid-elevations occurred during April, high elevation snow is still near average in many areas and should sustain streamflows well into the summer. Most areas, except for southwest Montana, should have adequate irrigation water for most of the summer. The lowest areas continue to be in the southwest corner of the state. Warm temperatures in April generated above average melt particularly from low-and mid-elevations. Many reservoirs have above-average storage. Spring and summer streamflows are forecast to be near average in northern and central basins and from the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming and well below average in most other areas.

NEVADA—Streamflow forecasts are well below average for all basins in the state and eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Streamflow forecasts are the highest in the Owyhee River Basin at 56 percent of average and the lowest in the Lower Colorado River Basin at 26 percent of average. Overall reservoir storage is near or below last year at this time. The Lower Colorado River Basin had the highest reservoir storage, at 117 percent of average, and the lower Humboldt River Basin had the lowest, at 30 percent of average.

NEW MEXICO—Water supply conditions remain below average across much of the state. The Sangre de Cristo Mountain tributaries moved into the near normal range again. Severe shortages of irrigation water supplies from snowmelt runoff will be observed in many areas.

OREGON—Water shortages, including extreme shortages in some locations, can be expected in the eastern part of the state this spring and summer while adequate supplies should be available in the Mt. Hood area and the Willamette Valley. The mountain snowpack began melting four-to-six-weeks early this year and currently is extremely low. Reservoir storage is currently 85 percent of normal.

UTAH—Warm temperatures in April produced near record snowpack loss, but runoff rarely reached normal levels due to the soil moisture deficit from successive years of below-normal precipitation. With only about one-third of the normal snowpack to feed streams the rest of the season, streamflow projections are approaching record low levels.

WASHINGTON—April streamflows varied from 107 percent of normal on the Lewis River to 285 percent on the Similkameen River. May 1 forecasts for runoff vary from 93 percent of average in the Chelan River to 58 percent on Mill Creek in the Walla Walla Basin.

WYOMING—Streamflow prospects dipped over much of the state during April. Stream flows from the Big Horn Mountains, the northern Black Hills, that portion of the North Platte River above the Wyoming-Colorado state line, and the Laramie River above Laramie will be near average during the spring and summer months. The northwest part of the state, including the western part of the Bighorn Basin and the upper part of the Wind River drainage, will have flows that are below average by 10 to 30 percent. The remainder of the state will see flows that are much below average. Storage in major reservoirs is good in the northwest part of the state, and below average along the North Platte River. Storage in the Black Hills reservoirs is also below average. In the Green River drainage, storage is slightly better than a year ago, but is still below average for this time of year. Melting of the accumulated snow pack started about two to three weeks early this year. Snow at low-elevation and mid-elevation data sites has disappeared, while snow at the high elevation sites is melting at a steady rate.

Diana Morse (202) 447-4772

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ALGERIA ELIGIBLE FOR MORE WHEAT UNDER EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, May 21—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced an opportunity for sales of an additional 2,000,000 metric tons of U.S. wheat to Algeria under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program.

Sales of wheat will be made to buyers in Algeria at competitive world prices. The export sales will be made through normal commercial channels with the assistance of commodities from the inventory of the Commodity Credit Corporation. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in the Algerian market.

This allocation will be valid for a one-year period as provided for in the invitation for offers. Details of the program, including an invitation for offers from exporters, will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Mark Rowse, (202) 382-9240, or Larry McElvain, (202) 447-3224. For a tape-recorded message announcing the issuance of invitations under EEP call the CCC Operations Hotline, (202) 447-2042.

Sally Klusaritz (202) 447-3448

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ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF IRAQ GSM-102 PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, May 21—Under Secretary of Agriculture for International Affairs and Commodity Programs Richard T. Crowder released today the results to date of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's administrative review of the Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) for Iraq.

The administrative review has involved the examination and analysis, over the past seven months, of certain records pertaining to GSM-guaranteed sales to Iraq, including information submitted by exporters to the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), bank records and exporter records. As part of the review, a USDA team travelled to Baghdad for discussions with Iraqi officials, and review of Iraqi documents, on April 17-22, 1990. The Office of the General Counsel, the Foreign Agricultural Service, CCC and the Department of State were represented on the review team.

The administrative review focused on four particular potential problem areas identified by USDA: unusually high commodity prices in GSM sales to Iraq during the period 1985-1987; Iraqi requests to exporters for "after sales services"; attempts by Iraq to impose certain taxes on GSM transactions; and questions regarding the arrival of commodities in Iraq.

The U.S. government has not incurred any losses as a result of GSM-guaranteed sales to Iraq. Iraq has participated in the GSM program since 1983 and has purchased more than \$4.5 billion in U.S. agricultural products.

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623

#

A NEW LOOK AT TEMPERATURE PATTERNS OVER PAST 70 YEARS

WASHINGTON—Old-timers who argue the weather has changed may be right—depending on where they live.

Among hundreds of small towns studied nationwide, a U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist says, the biggest change in average annual temperature has been a drop of 3.78 degrees F at Washington, Ga. And for those complaining about the weather getting hotter—he says it's gotten 3.23 degrees warmer at Schenectady, N.Y.

“On average, though, the change at 961 official weather stations over the past 70 years was about a 1/3 degree decrease,” said Sherwood B. Idso, a physicist who is studying environment changes for USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

“Our study, plus a half dozen others, indicates we have not yet begun to feel global warming due to the greenhouse effect,” he said.

Idso reported on findings from a study of temperatures recorded from 1920 to 1984 at official weather stations. He said they were located in small towns, cities and suburbs. Some towns had populations as small as 300, while the average population for all sites, based on the 1980 census, was less than 6,000.

Statistical analysis showed a connection between temperature change and population shifts over the years to the metropolitan areas, according to Idso.

“Urban heat islands form when more people settle in an area,” he said. “Not only do they bring their own body heat, they burn fires, drive cars, and pave over land that used to reflect more heat and evaporate more water.”

Idso said, “Until all land-based data of the entire globe are examined and filtered to eliminate the effects of urban heat islands, we cannot say we know if the Earth has warmed or cooled in the past century.”

He used temperature data from the U.S. Historical Climatology Network comprised of 1,219 weather stations located in the small towns which had longterm records and experienced few instrument and site changes. He worked with Robert C. Balling, Jr., a climatologist at Arizona State University in Tempe.

Idso noted that their work contradicts claims from other scientists that the Earth has already warmed one degree in the past 100 years. He said

that inaccurate assumptions in computer models result in overestimating the damage global warming will inflict on Earth.

“Some estimates have half of Florida and Louisiana under water, as well as more than one-tenth of Virginia, Delaware and New York,” he said. “I do not agree with such catastrophic predictions.”

Summer temperature change throughout the nation over the past 70 years, for example, was less than 1/100th of a degree but ranged from an increase of 4.7 degrees at Lodi, Calif., to a decrease of 4 degrees at Hazelton, Idaho.

During the winter, the extremes were a gain of 6 degrees at Baker, Ore., and a loss of 7 degrees at Lewisburg, Tenn. The net winter-time change for the entire nation was a cooling of about 1.5 degrees.

“Our study found pronounced geographical patterns associated with temperature changes. There has been slight but widespread cooling in the major south-central portion of the United States and slight warming in the northeast and west,” said Idso, who works at the research agency’s U.S. Water Conservation Laboratory in Phoenix.

Idso is a member of a team that is subjecting crops to environmental conditions expected in the next century, including air in which the carbon dioxide level is doubled. Results so far indicate an average 35 percent yield increase for most major crops.

A sampling of temperatures in the study is attached. Shown is the change in average temperatures that were recorded at weather stations.

Dennis Senft (415) 559-6068

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USDA ISSUES NORTHERN FOREST LANDS STUDY

WASHINGTON, May 22—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today issued the Northern Forest Lands Study, a report to Congress addressing the resources, landownership patterns, social and economic conditions and changes occurring in the 26-million-acre northern forest study area in northern New England and New York.

The study was carried out cooperatively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service, a Governors’ Task Force representing Maine, New Hampshire, New York and Vermont, and private organizations and corporations.

The study examined changes in landownership and use in the region, including subdivision and development of lake shores, river corridors and scenic areas. The study identified 28 different strategies that can help conserve environmental, recreational and commercial values in the northern forest area.

The study concludes that no single strategy will accomplish the long term goal of maintaining these values for the future, but that a combination of strategies in an integrated conservation program could be effective. An ongoing partnership of all levels of government and conservation organizations, corporations and individuals is fundamental to achieving the desired future condition of the area, the study said.

“The work of the Forest Service and the Governors’ Task Force is an outstanding example of interstate communication and state-federal cooperation,” said Yeutter.

Copies of the report may be obtained by writing Northern Forest Land Study, Forest Service, P.O. Box 520, Rutland, Vt. 05701; or by calling (802) 773-2133.

Jim Sanders (202) 447-3772

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USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES

WASHINGTON, May 22—Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

- long grain whole kernels, 8.63 cents per pound;
- medium grain whole kernels, 7.77 cents per pound;
- short grain whole kernels, 7.66 cents per pound;
- broken kernels, 4.32 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

- long grain, \$5.34 per hundredweight;
- medium grain, \$4.86 per hundredweight;
- short grain, \$4.68 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made May 29 at 3 p.m. EDT, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-7923

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PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR CHINA

WASHINGTON, May 22—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 155,000 metric tons of soft red winter wheat for delivery to China during the 1990-91 marketing year.

The marketing year for wheat begins June 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3:00 PM eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

Thomas B. McDonald (202) 447-3273

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PRIVATE EXPORTERS REPORT SALES ACTIVITY FOR JAPAN

WASHINGTON, May 23—Private exporters today reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture export sales of 127,000 metric tons of corn for delivery to Japan with 76,200 tons for 1989/90 marketing year and 50,800 tons for 1990/91 marketing year.

The marketing year for corn begins Sept. 1.

USDA issues both daily and weekly export sales reports to the public. Exporters are required to report to USDA export sales of 100,000 metric tons or more of one commodity, made in one day, to one destination by 3:00 PM eastern time on the next business day following the sale. Export sales of less than these quantities must be reported to USDA on a weekly basis.

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USDA TO CONDUCT JUNE SURVEY OF U.S. FARMS AND RANCHES

WASHINGTON, May 24—A major survey of the nation's farms and ranches will be conducted June 1-15 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The June Agricultural Survey is the first, and largest, of a series of surveys conducted throughout the year, designed to assess 1990 crop and livestock production and inventories. A sample of about 130,000 farmers and ranchers nationwide will provide information to be used in making state, regional and national estimates. Local interviewers trained by NASS will contact the participants in the survey by telephone or in person.

“Gathering this type of information from producers is the only way to develop reliable crop and livestock estimates for an orderly marketing system,” says Rich Allen, chairperson of the Agricultural Statistics Board. “The estimates are a working tool to help farmers and ranchers in their decisions about production, marketing and investments in their operations.”

Allen said the survey also helps farmers understand what's happening in their regions and their specific areas of interest in agriculture.

The survey information and other data are sent from NASS state offices to USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C., analyzed, and released by the Agricultural Statistics Board. The board maintains strict security to ensure the integrity of the estimates.

The farmers and ranchers expected to participate in the survey are selected from nearly 2.2 million farms nationwide through statistical sampling procedures. The respondents represent a broad cross-section of U.S. agriculture. To assure a geographic spread of the sample, a portion of those surveyed are selected from specific “segments” or land units in each state. Facts about an individual's farm or ranch are strictly confidential and used only in combination with similar reports from other producers.

The June survey is one of the most important of the many surveys conducted each year by NASS. Other agricultural surveys are scheduled for September, December and March. Objective yield surveys (actual plant counts and measurements) for wheat, corn, soybeans, cotton and rice are conducted near the end of each month throughout the growing

season. Separate cattle and sheep inventory surveys are conducted in July and January.

Nearly 300 times a year, NASS issues official state and national estimates of crops, livestock, prices and other measures of the agricultural industry and its many facets.

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**THIS WEEK’S HONEY-LOAN REPAYMENT LEVELS
UNCHANGED**

WASHINGTON, May 24—Producers may repay their 1989 honey price-support loans at the following levels, according to Keith D. Bjerke, executive vice president of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Commodity Credit Corporation:

Weekly Honey-loan Repayment Levels, color and class, cents per pound, 1989 crop Table

White	40.0
Extra-light Amber	37.0
Light Amber	36.0
Amber	35.0
Nontable.....	33.0

The weekly repayment level for 1990-crop honey is 38.0 cents per pound for all colors, table and nontable grades.

Levels are unchanged from those announced last week.

Producers who redeem their honey pledged as loan collateral by repaying their honey-price support loans at these levels may not repledge the same honey as collateral for another loan.

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USDA PROTECTS FIVE NEW PLANT VARIETIES

WASHINGTON, May 24—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued certificates of protection to developers of five new varieties of seed-reproduced plants, including alfalfa, garden bean, perennial ryegrass, and soybean.

Kenneth H. Evans, of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said developers of the new varieties will have the exclusive right to reproduce, sell, import, and export their products in the United States for 18 years. Certificates of protection are granted after a review of breeders' records and claims that each new variety is novel, uniform and stable.

The following varieties have been issued certificates of protection:

- the 5262 variety of alfalfa, developed by Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc., Johnston, Iowa;
- the Sprout variety of garden bean, developed by the Asgrow Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.;
- the SR 4100 variety of perennial ryegrass, developed by Seed Research of Oregon Inc., Corvallis, Ore.;
- the Calypso variety of perennial ryegrass, developed by The O.M. Scott & Sons Co., Marysville, Ohio;
- the SS 487 variety of soybean, developed by Southern States Cooperative Inc., Richmond, Va.

The plant variety protection program is administered by USDA's AMS and provides marketing protection to developers of new and distinctive seed-reproduced plants ranging from farm crops to flowers.

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